

which addressed emergency procedures and protocols for prevention, response, and mitigation of critical incidents. In addition, he planned the security, evacuation, and emergency response for the 55th Presidential Inauguration. He later served as deputy chief of the Uniformed Services Bureau, the largest component of the Capitol Police.

On October 30, 2006, he was appointed as chief of the Capitol Police. As leader of the nearly 1,800-officer force, Chief Morse has overseen enhancements in numerous areas, including recruiting, training, technology, community outreach, and emergency preparedness. During his tenure, Chief Morse oversaw the opening of the Capitol Visitor Center and the merger between the Capitol Police and Library of Congress Police.

Throughout his career, Chief Morse has continuously exhibited exceptional skills as a crisis manager, security coordinator, innovator, and team builder. Always leading by example, Chief Morse motivated all who came into contact with him through his enthusiasm and flexibility. Thanks to his leadership and service, the Capitol Police today is a stronger, more professional, and effective law enforcement agency.

Born in Wilmington, NC, Chief Morse holds a Bachelor of Science and a Master of Science degree in management from the Johns Hopkins University. He is a loving and devoted husband and father of three children.

Speaking both for himself and the ranks of law enforcement officers who serve the Congress, Chief Morse once stated, "The security and protection of this great institution is not only our job, but we consider it a sacred duty and privilege to serve you, the Congressional staff, and the millions of visitors from every corner of the world who come to the United States Capitol complex every year." We have all benefited from his distinction and dedication.

On behalf of the U.S. Senate, I congratulate Chief Morse on his well-earned retirement from the United States Capitol Police and salute his distinguished career.

VOTE EXPLANATION

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, I was unavoidably detained for rollcall vote No. 114 on the nomination of Timothy S. Hillman to be a United States District Judge for the District of Massachusetts. Had I been present, I would have voted yea.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN M. CONNORS, JR.

Mr. BROWN of Massachusetts. Mr. President, I rise today in tribute to John M. "Jack" Connors, Jr., of Brookline, MA, a larger-than-life figure in a region with quite a few outsized personalities. A Massachusetts native, he grew up in the Roslindale section of Boston and graduated from Boston College. A born go-getter, to help pay for

college Jack landed one of the greatest jobs in New England—selling hotdogs and peanuts at Fenway Park.

Not long after graduation, Jack co-founded Boston's Hill Holliday ad agency and spent the better part of 30 years as an ad man. Now a part of the Interpublic Group of Companies, Jack remains chairman emeritus of this leading agency. He is a fierce competitor in business and built hugely successful and profitable enterprises that employ tens of thousands and have contributed billions to the regional economy. In July, Jack will step down after a phenomenally successful 17-year tenure as chairman of the board of Partners Health Care Systems.

Partners began with the merger of two of our Nation's leading teaching hospitals, Massachusetts General Hospital and Brigham and Women's Hospital. Of course, the real work of any merger comes after the deal is signed, and when Jack was elected chairman of Partners' board in 1996, he helped lead the integration and growth of the new not-for-profit network.

Today, Partners is the largest health care network in Massachusetts, and with over 50,000 employees, the State's largest private employer. It is also one of our Nation's great medical research centers. In fact, Partners is the largest recipient of National Institutes of Health research grants, a testament to their world-class scientists and facilities.

Jack serves on the boards of many companies and organizations, including Covidien and Hasbro. He is also a trustee of Emmanuel College, his alma mater Boston College, and is a member of Harvard Medical School's Board of Fellows.

Throughout his career, Jack has been a relentless fighter for the less fortunate in the Boston area. From an early age, Jack worked closely with Boston's leading charities, often providing pro bono ad work for these nonprofits. Jack seemed to always know that any true measure of a successful life must include helping others.

Jack worked tirelessly to save many of the Boston Archdiocese's struggling schools. As a businessman, he knew that rescuing these schools required more than throwing money at the problem—and by some estimates, Jack raised about \$70 million for the cause—it also required a more businesslike approach to running these schools. So Jack encouraged the archdiocese to build parochial academies such as Pope John Paul II Catholic Academy that serve more than one parish. These academies are now models of primary education and well over 95 percent of their students go on to college.

Over the years, Jack worked closely with Boston Mayor Tom Menino on a number of important projects to help enrich the lives of at-risk youth. Among their more ambitious—and hugely successful—is Camp Harbor View. This partnership with the city and the Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston

has, in a few short years, created a summer haven for nearly 800 young people on Long Island off Quincy, MA. This remarkable program has a full-time staff which stays in contact with campers and their families during the school year.

In closing, it is a privilege for me to join Jack's friends, family, and colleagues in congratulating him on his retirement from Partners. And though Jack will be leaving Partners, we can be sure he will continue to have a larger-than-life presence in the educational, cultural, and business life of Boston. I thank Jack for his tremendous service to the people of Massachusetts and wish him and his wife Eileen all the best in the years ahead.

REMEMBERING SENATOR JAMES ABDNOR

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Mr. President, I rise today to mark the passing of a great public servant from South Dakota, Senator James Abdnor.

Senator Abdnor is remembered across South Dakota as a man that never lost touch with the people who elected him. Throughout his life, no matter what office he achieved, he was in his heart the same small town South Dakotan he had always been. He traveled the world, but wherever he went, he always took his hometown, Kennebec, SD, with him.

Before he was a U.S. Senator, Jim Abdnor served in the South Dakota State Senate in Pierre, and spent 3 years as Lieutenant Governor. In 1972, he was elected to Congress, where he served three terms in the U.S. House. In 1980, he defeated Senator George McGovern to serve in the Senate, and later headed the Small Business Administration for 2 years under President Reagan.

Beyond his official titles, Senator Abdnor was also the son of a Lebanese immigrant, an Army veteran, a farmer and rancher, an avid follower of small town baseball, and a father-figure to many of his staff members, who continue to carry out his legacy to this day.

Senator Abdnor was regarded as a decent and humble man, by both political supporters and opponents. He would be the first to admit that he was not a flashy speaker, but, one-on-one, he had a way of connecting with people. Plain spoken, straightforward, friendly, and accessible—there are few politicians like Senator Abdnor, and our Nation is poorer for it.

As one South Dakotan recently wrote,

I may have voted for someone else, but I never voted against Jim.

His service inspired countless South Dakotans on both sides of the aisle, and we all mourn his passing.